

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SAIGON 11119 221148Z

45

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 /031 W

----- 019011

R 221046Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8067

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 11119

EXDIS

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR VS

SUBJECT: LETTER FROM PRESIDENT THIEU TO PRESIDENT FORD

1. THE ASSISTANT TO THE FOREIGN MINISTER FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS
AUGUST 22 PASSED US FOR OUR INFORMATION FOLLOWING LETTER
FROM PRESIDENT THIEU TO PRESIDENT FORD WHICH WILL BE DELIVERED
IN WASHINGTON BY AMBASSADOR PHUONG.

2. BEGIN TEXT: SAIGON, AUGUST 21, 1974. DEAR MR. PRESIDENT,

3. I AM PLEASED TO ACKNOWLEDGE YOUR LETTER OF AUGUST 10, 1974
AND TO RENEW MY WISHES FOR THE FULL SUCCESS OF YOUR MISSION,
WHICH IS MOST IMPORTANT NOT ONLY TO AMERICA BUT ALSO TO THE
REST OF THE WORLD.

4. AS YOUR EXCELLENCY SO APTLY PUT IT, WE HAVE TRAVELED A
LONG AND HARD ROAD TOGETHER DURING THE PAST TWENTY FIVE
YEARS. DURING THIS HISTORIC JOURNEY, MANY FINE YOUNG MEN
OF BOTH NATIONS HAD GIVEN THEIR LIVES AND WE SHALL SEE TO
IT THAT THEIR SUPREME SACRIFICE WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN MADE IN VAIN.
THIS MEANS THAT A GENUINE PEACE MUST BE SECURED AND THAT THE
SACRED RIGHT OF THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE PEOPLE TO SELF
DETERMINATION MUST BE PRESERVED.

5. IN THAT NOBLE ENDEAVOUR, I CAN ASSURE YOU THAT THE GOVERNMENT
OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIET-NAM HAS DONE ITS UTMOST TO RESPECT AND
IMPLEMENT THE PARIS AGREEMENT. THE ONLY OBSTACLE TO PEACE AND
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SAIGON 11119 221148Z

TO A POLITICAL SOLUTION OF THE VIET-NAM PROBLEM RESIDES IN THE

STUBBORN AND BELLICOSE ATTITUDE OF THE NORTH VIETNAMESE WHO DO NOT RENOUNCE TO THEIR SCHEME OF FORCIBLE CONQUEST OF SOUTH VIET-NAM YET. TO OVERCOME THAT OBSTACLE, WE MUST SHOW THE COMMUNIST SIDE THAT THERE IS NO HOPE FOR THEM EITHER TO BREAK THE WILL OF THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE PEOPLE OR TO UNDERMINE THE SUPPORT OF THE U.S. FOR THE REPUBLIC OF VIET-NAM.

6. YOUR ASSURANCES ABOUT THE CONTINUITY OF AMERICAN POLICY TOWARDS VIET-NAM AND ABOUT THE ADEQUATE AMOUNT OF MILITARY AND ECONOMIC AID THAT WE COULD GET IN THE END ARE MOST HELPFUL IN THAT RESPECT. I STRONGLY HOPE THAT FUTURE ACTIONS BY THE U.S. CONGRESS WILL FURTHER CONVINCE THE COMMUNIST SIDE OF OUR COMMON DETERMINATION AND STEADFASTNESS OF PURPOSE, THUS BRINGING PEACE THAT MUCH NEARER. SINCERELY,
(SIGNED) THIEU. END TEXT.
LEHMANN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 AUG 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: boyleja
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974SAIGON11119
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740231-1041
From: SAIGON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740826/aaaaavzt.tel
Line Count: 77
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: boyleja
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <26 APR 2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <04 MAR 2003 by boyleja>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LETTER FROM PRESIDENT THIEU TO PRESIDENT FORD
TAGS: PFOR, VS, US, (FORD, GERALD R), (THIEU)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005